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Roxbury. Friday Eve'g
Dec. 30, 1859

Dear Garrison,

Again I am tripped up by my
~~nitestine~~ foe - doleed to keep house
all to-day (& bed much of the time)
- and seeing no chance of getting out
tomorrow. I must abandon all
thought & sorry to Plymouth, and
ask you to hand the accompanying
letter to good Bourne Spooner. -
May you have a strong, and good,
and bold, and effective meeting.
Whether I am ever to be of much
use to any cause, or anybody,
any more, remains to be seen.

I can truly say that I have no
such enjoyment, in life, (next
to my duties to my children,)
as in helping and serving, as I
can, the Anti-slavery Cause. Least
of all, then, would I be an
impediment to that Cause. And
I so sincerely hope not to stand in
the way of Some one, who can
and will fill my present post
more efficiently than I do. I
wish all our friends to know
this, — and that I stand ready,
at any day, to step aside in

favour of my successor.

I sincerely hope your own health will stand the demands upon it for many & many a year yet. Pray be wisely careful of it. — And this brings me around to the Washington 'subpoenas' again. The more I consider it, the more I am opposed to having Phillips so there, ~~not~~ at all; — if at all, a strong company of Boston friends must go with him. — I have talked with Pearse about this, and he & others are ready. To-day I am told, pretty directly from himself, that Dr. Howe will

probably go to W., if summoned.

Farewell, & be careful of
Yourself. Yours, and
Wendell, & Remond, and probably
Quincy & Wyman will gloriously
hold up the Pl: meeting.

Do not forget the Petition; —
take with you a dozen blank
copies, (they are on the window by my
desk), and also, if you conveniently
can, some of W.P.'s & your own Speeches
on the subject (little Tract Form.)

Had I gone, I intended to take, for sale
& distribution, a lot of the various 'John
Brown' publications; but you had better not
encumber yourself with this care.

Yrs. aff'ly, S. May Jr.